

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEETING OF MARCH 19, 1929

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on March 19, 1929, in the American Museum of Natural History; President Wm. T. Davis in the chair, with twenty members and eight visitors present.

Mr. Barber spoke of "Collecting Experiences in California" with illustrations by specimens and views of the sections visited. He had started from New York on February 4, and after visiting in Lincoln, Nebraska, and a day at the Grand Cañon, had reached Altedena. From it as a center he had collected in the Arroyo Seco, where sifting gave the best results, especially where a growth of wild mustard on the flats made a cover for Coleoptera and Hemiptera. A day with W. S. Blatchley was memorable for its visit to the Pitch Beds, another was spent at the head waters of the cañon, where a male Belostomid, dorsally covered with eggs, was found. Palm Springs was also visited. Then two weeks with W. S. Wright at San Diego, with much collecting by pulling up grass clumps to find the insects clustered in the damper soil around the roots. After a visit to Imperial Valley two weeks were devoted to San Francisco with Van Duzee and Leach, including three days at the latter's bungalow in Mendocino County. The contrast between the redwood and madrone which clothed the hills and the desert of Southern California was great, and was accompanied by a different type of collecting. At last came the end of a three months' trip and the study of the material from which already new species have been described.

Mr. Barber's remarks were discussed by Mr. Davis, who said the Cicada found on Manzanita was *Okanagena rubrovenosa*; by Mr. Bromley, who was interested in the *Triatoma protractus* found in rat's nests, because the species found in Florida, *sanguisuga*, is said to feed on human blood; and by Mr. Bueno, who discussed the habits of gerrids.

Mr. Barber said that all his specimens of Macrovelia were taken under boards in a low damp meadow. He spoke also of some observed resemblances of capsids and ants and of the abundance of box elder bugs.

Mr. Davis exhibited Circular No. 138 by Henry Fox on the *Dermaptera* and *Orthoptera* of New Jersey and pointed out its discussion of faunal zones in New Jersey.

Mr. Mutchler announced the sudden collapse of Mr. George W. J. Angell, who was the first president of the Society, and who died on March 22.

MEETING OF APRIL 2, 1929

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on April 2, 1929, in the American Museum of Natural History; Presi-

dent Wm. T. Davis in the chair, with sixteen members and seven visitors present.

The president announced the death on March 22 of Mr. George W. J. Angell, a member of the Society since September 7, 1892, and its first president. On motion, duly seconded and carried, the secretary was instructed to forward an expression of the Society's regret and sympathy to his family.

Mr. Davis showed messages from Mr. Engelhardt, now in Florida, and Dr. Lutz in Panama, and exhibited also Dr. Needham's new book on Dragon Flies.

Mr. H. F. Schwarz gave an interesting account of "A Visit to Some European Entomological Centers," including London, Oxford, Paris, Germany and Switzerland. The principal purpose was the study of types of bees in the collections visited, but many details of insectivorous plants at Kew Gardens, of the invertebrate zoo, and of the European water spider, added to the interest of Mr. Schwarz' remarks.

Mr. C. H. Curran described "An Entomological Visit to Panama" with illustration by lantern slides. After showing the character of Barro Colorado, Mr. Curran exhibited photographs of some of the more remarkable Hemiptera, Orthoptera, and Diptera he had found.

In the discussion following his remarks, Mr. Schwarz said that eighteen species of honey bees were included in the material collected.

Mr. Bromley commented on the variety of trees shown, a condition similar to that found in Florida hammocks.

Mr. Angell recorded *Ceruchus piceus* found March 16 at Cook's Falls, N. Y.

Mr. Davis recorded *Cicindela repanda* seen March 24 at Fertile Plain, N. Y. He also recorded three specimens of *Okanagana rimosa* Say, all found in the wash-up on the Long Island shore, as follows:

♀ Rockaway Beach, Long Island, N. Y., in wash-up, June 26, 1909 (Geo. P. Engelhardt).

♀ Rockaway Beach, Long Island, N. Y., in wash-up, June 14, 1914 (Ernest Shoemaker).

♀ Long Beach, Long Island, N. Y., in wash-up, June 27, 1926 (A. Kiestler).

He also said no living specimens had been found on Long Island.

MEETING OF APRIL 16, 1929

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on April 16, 1929, in the American Museum of Natural History; President Wm. T. Davis in the chair, with fourteen members and ten visitors present.

Mr. V. I. Safro, 40 West 77th St., New York, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. J. L. King made an address, illustrated by lantern slides, on "Parasite Work at the Japanese Beetle Laboratory" in which he described the preliminary studies of parasites, followed by a description of methods of transportation to the Laboratory and of breeding there. His remarks displayed a thorough knowledge of the subject, and were followed with great interest by the members.

In the discussion that followed Mr. Bromley spoke of the predatory work of Asilidæ, and the president congratulated and thanked Mr. King.

Mr. Schoof, present as a visitor, exhibited some remarkable insects from New Guinea.

Dr. Lutz gave a preliminary account of his recent studies of leaf-cutting ants at Barro Colorado in the Panama Canal Zone.

Mr. Engelhardt told of his visit to Florida, where he had met Mrs. E. Robertson-Miller, Prof. Fernald, Dr. Blatchley, and Mr. Frank Morton Jones. His own studies had been principally on clear-wing moths.

MEETING OF MAY 7, 1929

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on May 7, 1929, in the American Museum of Natural History; President Wm. T. Davis in the chair, with nineteen members and five visitors present.

Communications from Mr. Notman in Alabama and from E. B. Williamson were read.

Dr. H. L. Dozier, Entomologist of the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station, spoke of his "Studies on Aleyrodidæ and Fulgoridæ" with illustrations by microscopic specimens and photomicrographs. He made an informative address, dwelling especially on the structure of the pupa case as the basis of classification in the Aleyrodidæ, and the economic importance of the greenhouse white fly in this latitude. The waxy secretions also were discussed and the origin of the name lantern fly for Fulgeroids.

His remarks were discussed during the meeting by Dr. Lutz and Messrs. Davis, Weiss, Engelhardt and Mutchler.

After adjournment Dr. Dozier exhibited specimens under the microscope.

Mr. Huntington exhibited a rare *Thecla wittfeldii* from Florida.

Mr. Angell exhibited *Cremastochilus* from North Carolina and the resemblance of a longhorn beetle with certain ants.

Mr. Davis gave April 30 as the date of the first *Papilio* this year, a large ♂ *turnus*, and May 5 as the date for the first *P. troilus*.

Mr. Nicolay spoke of *P. ajax* at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Engelhardt had found *Paratenodera sinensis* egg masses at Queens, Long Island.

Mr. Angell recorded *Carabus serratus* at Cook's Falls, N. Y.

Other interesting finds were spoken of—Panagæus by Mr. Shoemaker—roaches in places warmed by underground fires by Messrs. Ragot and Davis, and Ceutorhynchus and Bruchus by Mr. Leng.

MEETING OF MAY 21, 1929

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on May 21, 1929, in the American Museum of Natural History; President Wm. T. Davis in the chair, with fifteen members and seven visitors present.

In the absence of Mr. Leng, Mr. Sherman acted as secretary.

Mr. Joseph J. Copeland was elected to membership in the Society.

Miss Elizabeth Sherman, of Mount Vernon, N. Y., and of the class of 1929 at Smith College, was proposed for membership by her father, John D. Sherman, Jr., and on motion by Mr. Mutchler, duly seconded, the by-laws were suspended and the secretary was instructed to cast a ballot for her immediate election to membership in the Society.

The president read a card from Mr. Notman dated at Liberty, Texas, May 5.

Mr. Nicolay spoke on "Recent Experiences in Collecting Coleoptera," before which he placed on exhibition a box containing specimens of *Ulodiini*, a tribe of Buprestidæ peculiar to the old world, the species of which look like lamellicorn beetles, and in their buzzing flight are suggestive of cetonid beetles and bees. The tribe abounds in Africa and several species of the Cape Town region have heavy tufts of hair on the elytra. Species from the East Indies and Malay Archipelago are brilliantly colored.

Mr. Nicolay began his remarks with an enthusiastic account of the fine species of Bembidium, *Elaphrus cicatricosus*, and other Carabidæ to be found in the New Jersey region variously labeled by Shoemaker as Montvale, by Quirsfeld as Rivervale, and by Nicolay as Orangeburg; also of the occurrence at Terrace Pond, N. J., of *Pterostichus pennsylvanicus* and other boreal species, and *Buprestis salisburyensis* and of *B. sulcicollis* taken, the latter from healthy pine trees, on the hill summits around River Forest in the Greenwood Lake section, in May and June.

He then took up the matter of his hardships in the vicinity of and on Mount Washington, N. H., which he ascended with Mr. Quirsfeld from the Glen House via the Carriage Road, Raymond Path, and Tuckerman's Ravine, finally reaching after somewhat normal experiences the Lakes of the Clouds huts. No specimens of *Blethisa julichii*, which has been found in the vicinity of these Lakes, were found, and the acting secretary got the impression that the speaker wished it placed on record that he paid a five spot to be safely conducted to the carriage road by one of the "hut boys" from this benighted spot.

Mr. Nicolay admitted that *Bembidium lucidum*, *Elaphrus olivaceus* and other nice carabids occurred along the Peabody River; also that he found Mount Madison a much more friendly mountain than Mount Washington, finding on Madison *Sphaeroderus brevoorti*, *Nomaretus bilobus*, and other good Carabidæ. The flat plateau of Carter Dome also furnished numerous specimens of the gregarious *Notiophilus nemoralis*, a brown species, occurring among the pine needles and not requiring sunlight for its activity.

Mr. Nicolay found his honeymoon trip to Bermuda in December a little less difficult than the White Mountain ordeals, but failed to enthuse over the sea voyage and collecting in Bermuda, where the flora was much more interesting than the fauna.

Mr. Angell spoke of his recent trip to Elizabeth City, N. C., with his daughter. In this vicinity he found *Carabus vinctus* var. *carinatus*, many *Cremastochilus*, *Cicindela tranquebarica* var. *minor*, also two dead specimens of a fine *Cychrus*.

An extraordinarily large rattlesnake, at first mistaken for a woodchuck or allied mammal, was seen.

On the return trip Mr. Angell stopped in Washington, where he examined the Casey Lucanidæ, and he gave his opinion, with drawings, of the three species of *Platycerus*—*keenii*, *thoracicus*, and *pedecellaris*.

Mr. Davis exhibited a box of Utah specimens of *Okanagana* consisting of four species, one new, and all somewhat closely resembling each other, as species of this genus from a given locality are apt to do.

Mr. Lemmer stated that night collecting of moths had not, so far this spring, been very productive.

MEETING OF OCTOBER 1, 1929

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8 P. M. on October 1, 1929, in the American Museum of Natural History; President Wm. T. Davis in the chair, with seventeen members and seven visitors present.

Mr. Hall submitted the treasurer's report, which was received with thanks.

The secretary submitted a proposal from the New York Academy of Sciences to publish a new directory, the proportionate expense to the Society being about \$22, which was approved.

Dr. Felt spoke of the death of Dr. Frank H. Chittenden on September 15, 1929, and of his long period of service in the Department of Agriculture. The president recalled his editorial work on *Entomologica Americana*, his studies of nut weevils and *Sphenophorus*, and expressed the Society's regret in learning of his death.

The president called for reports of summer work. Among those who spoke were Mr. Mutchler, who exhibited *Calomycterus setarius*, a Japanese beetle which had appeared in great numbers in the garden of Mr. W. M. Faunce, at Colonial Heights, near Yonkers, in July, and had been provisionally identified by Mr. L. L. Buchanan.

Dr. Felt spoke of the effect of the summer's drought as weakening the vitality of many trees, thereby making them more susceptible to the attacks of insects. He also gave some data, derived from this summer's work, on hackberry galls.

Dr. Lutz spoke of his visit to Talulah, La., where he met Dr. Folsom and Mr. Glick and obtained material for a cotton boll weevil group. With a series of photographs he showed some of the activities then in progress, in-

cluding dusting the cotton fields by aeroplane, estimating the abundance of the weevils as a clue to the size of the cotton crop, and collecting by traps attached to aeroplanes the insects carried by air currents at various elevations up to 10,000 feet. Balloons were also used in connection with studies of distribution of cotton moth.

Dr. Felt said that a feature of great economic importance deduced from finding the pink boll worm moth at elevations up to 3000 feet was the apparent futility of zoning restrictions.

Miss Dobroschky spoke briefly of her collection of leaf hoppers in Virginia and West Virginia.

Mr. Angell mentioned some of the insects caught and seen during the summer, *Cicindela 12-punctata*, *Necrophorus vespilloides*, etc.

Mr. Chapin spoke of the genus *Cobias*, albino *philodice* plentiful, and *eurytheme* rare; other observers, however, had seen numbers of the latter.

Mr. Bromley spoke of a microlepidopteron apparently injurious to Norway Maple by attacking the tissue at the base of the leaf petiole; also of the Mexican bean beetle in Connecticut, and several species of *Cuterebra* each mimicking some hymenopterous insect. A further subject of study at Stamford had been the cause of spotted leaves on hickory, often making the whole tree yellow and brown, which proved to be a small aphid, *Mesocallus*.

Mr. Frank Johnson spoke briefly of two months he had spent in South America, exhibiting a number of photographs and promising to exhibit some of the more interesting butterflies later.

Mr. Barber had spent the month of July at Ithaca studying the Heidemann collection of Hemiptera, and visiting McLean Bogs with Dr. Forbes and other localities with Dr. Crosby. Later he had collected in Fairfax County, Virginia, and at Hudson, N. Y., where in spite of drought he had been successful by closely examining grass clumps and mullein which by conserving moisture and providing shelter make natural habitats for insects.

Mr. Nicolay described the Chesapeake Beach locality for *Cicindela puritana* which he had visited with Mr. Herbert Barber and the latter's experiences in bathing there. He had visited Nova Scotia with Mrs. Nicolay, where both made collections. Mrs. Nicolay, being invited to speak by the President, said she had commenced a collection of Carabidæ of the world and had so far eighteen specimens.

Mr. Huntington had made a trip through the Lesser Antilles and Trinidad. In the latter place in about three weeks about ninety specimens of Hesperidæ were caught which will be shown at a later meeting.

Mr. Lemmer had spent every week-end since March at Lakehurst, N. J. Many moths had been caught by baiting, including *lemmeri*, and more at light. *Catocala* ceased to appear about mid-July. An example of the destructive work of the Mexican bean beetle at Glendola, N. J., was shown.

Mr. Leng recorded *Ceutorhynchus marginatus* as plentiful on dandelion on Staten Island.

Mr. Davis exhibited two recent publications on Cicadidæ—Insect Singers by Myers, giving a comprehensive account of the family, and studies on the biology of Kansas cicadas by Dr. R. H. Beamer. In the latter, evidence of the length of nymphal life is adduced for several species.

Mr. Bromley exhibited a collection of Diptera made by Mr. Angell, giving an account of several large robber flies with instances of the great size of their prey, including even katydids.

Mr. Mutchler referred to the popular interest in the praying mantis, in reference to which at least a hundred calls had been made at the American Museum.

Mr. Leng added that as many as six specimens a day had been brought to the museum on Staten Island, where *Paratenodera sinensis* was introduced by Mr. Davis twenty-five years ago.

Among other speakers during the evening were Messrs. Clark, Curran, Hall, Mann, Goodall, Ruckes and Wilson.